

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe

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A Bad Complex

By Walter E. Myer

MANY people go through life worried and unhappy because they lack self-confidence. Young people as well as their elders suffer from this mental affliction. It often happens that students are handicapped by it.

All of us have moments of discouragement when nothing that we are doing seems worth while, but that is not the trouble I am talking about. I have in mind the person—the student, let us say—who is bothered most of the time by a feeling that he is not so good as his classmates or associates.

Such a student may think he is incapable of doing a high grade of work. He may assume that his personality is weak or faulty and that there is little chance of his being popular or successful. He is oppressed by a vague sense of inferiority. The psychologists have a name for this condition. They call it an "inferiority complex."

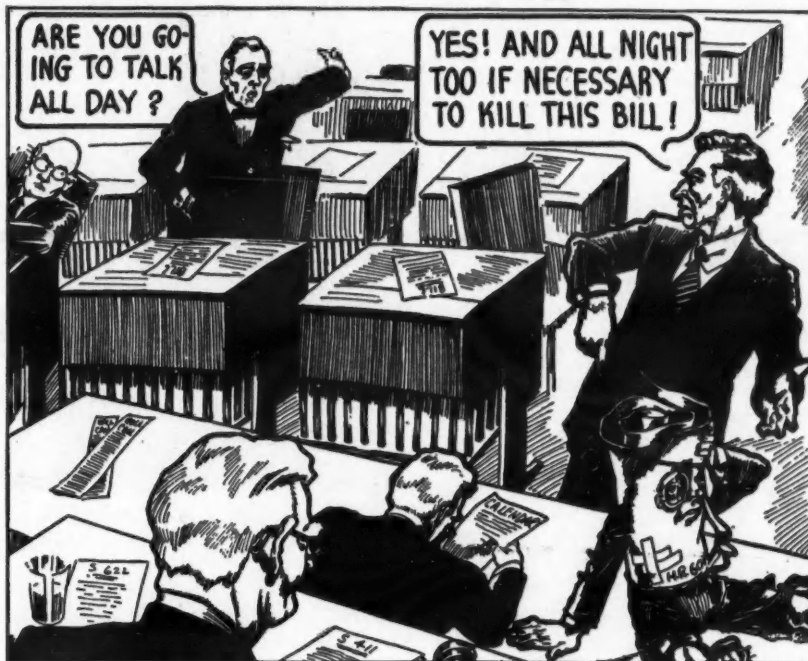
If you are a victim of this mental condition don't sit around worrying about it. Just use your power of will and shake it off. It should help you to know that you are not alone in your troubled state. Many others are in the same boat. The fellow at your side may be.

You can't always tell about such things from appearances. One who feels himself inferior may undertake to cover what he considers his defects by much talking or even boasting. That frequently happens. Don't let it happen to you. There are better ways to deal with the problem.

First, keep in mind the fact that feelings of inferiority are frequently groundless, so don't take yourself too seriously. When a fear arises, try to forget it. Find something that you can do well; some course in school, some activity or sport, and prove that you can excel at it. If some of the courses are unusually hard for you, try something else, something, for example, that calls for manual or mechanical skill. Those activities may be as important as the ones which require a great deal of reading.

Take note now and then of your personality and your social habits. If some improvement can be made here or there, make them, but don't spend too much time analyzing yourself. That will make you too self-conscious, and you need to relax. Turn your thoughts outward rather than inward. Develop outside interests, and you will find that your feelings of inferiority will gradually fade away.

I realize that what I am saying does not apply to most young people. The typical student is a self-reliant youth who doesn't worry much about himself. He is more interested in the outside world and in what he is doing than in his defects or shortcomings. Some people are too completely satisfied with themselves, too certain of a superiority which they have not achieved. Between over-confidence and defeatism there is a middle ground which all students would do well to find.



The Senate Filibuster

Should Lawmakers Put a Curb on Practices Which Can Be Used to Prevent the Upper House from Voting?

ONE of the vital matters to come before the Senate in the early days of the 81st Congress is the discussion of whether or not to curb the use of the filibuster. The customary practice of permitting unlimited debate in the upper house of Congress enables one member or a small group in that body to defeat a bill by "talking it to death."

On a number of occasions in the past, a few senators have engaged in filibusters to defeat measures which they bitterly opposed but which they knew had majority approval in Congress. By talking continuously for days at a time, or by threatening to do so, these small groups have been able to keep the Senate from voting upon the bills which they disliked.

The word *filibuster* was originally used to describe pirates and buccaneers. With the passage of time, the term was applied to any method used by a few lawmakers to prevent a legislature from taking action.

In some cases, a senator engaged in a filibuster will call for repeated roll calls. When this is done, all business must be suspended while a clerk reads the names of the members. The most common form of filibustering, however, is prolonged discussion to delay voting on the issue involved.

Because of the large membership of the House of Representatives, rules were long ago established to limit discussion and debate. The Senate, on the other hand, has nearly always permitted its members unlimited time in talking about any issue which comes before that body.

The Senate, more than 100 years ago, decided that it did not want to curb debate in any way. The lawmakers thought that measures could be more thoroughly considered if there

were no restrictions upon debate. They felt that the right to unlimited discussion would serve as a guarantee against having unwise bills pushed quickly through the Senate. They felt, too, that since the upper house was comparatively small, each member should be able to have as much time as he wanted to present his arguments on any given proposal.

Unfortunately, the right of unlimited debate in the Senate has been abused from time to time—and it is this abuse that is known as the filibuster. In using this weapon, a single senator may conduct the debate himself, or a number of the lawmakers may work together and yield the floor to one another in succession so that the debate goes on continuously.

One of the longest filibustering speeches on record was made in 1908 when Senator Robert La Follette spoke for 18 hours. Filibusters by groups of senators have gone on for as long as 60 days. This 60-day filibuster took place in 1846 when the Oregon boundary was being discussed. A 40-day filibuster followed in 1881, and 10 years later business of the Senate was delayed for 46 days while a group of lawmakers fought a bill that would have permitted Congress to control Congressional elections in the states. One of the most recent filibusters was that conducted by Senators Glen Taylor of Idaho and William Langer of North Dakota last June when the 80th Congress was considering the draft bill. This, however, was a short filibuster and lasted only 17 hours.

When senators are conducting a filibuster, they need not confine their debate to the question under consideration. They can discuss any topic, or read material which has no connection

Socialist Goals In Great Britain

Labor Party Pushes Ahead in Its Plans to Take Over Big Industries

THE British Labor Party, which has controlled the government of England since the summer of 1945, is going ahead with its plans to place the nation's steel industry under public ownership and management. It may be some time yet before the final step in this direction is taken, but a majority of the lawmakers in the House of Commons have already indicated that they approve of the idea.

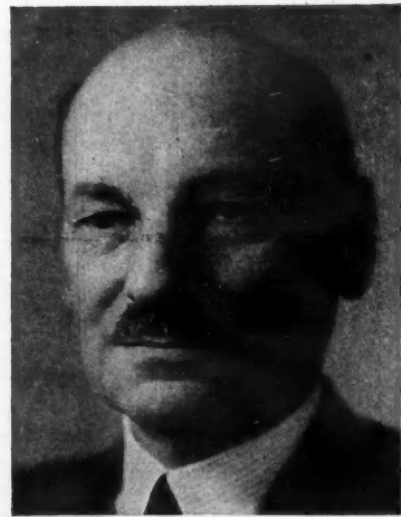
Before the Labor Party came into power, its leaders went on record in favor of putting a number of major industries under government ownership. At the same time, these leaders made it clear that they did not favor complete socialism. Their plan was to leave small businesses in private hands and gradually have the government take over most of the larger economic enterprises.

The first big step toward public ownership came two years ago this month when the government bought the coal mines from their owners. Today, there is a sharp difference of opinion within England as to whether or not this industry is serving the nation more efficiently than it did under private ownership.

If the Labor Party stays in power, it plans eventually to have the government take over all of Britain's chemical plants and its transportation system. When the government owns these industries, plus steel and coal, it will be in a powerful economic position.

The Labor Party is moving slowly, however, and it may be some years before it completes its program of government ownership. Moreover, there is always a chance that the majority of people will change their

(Concluded on page 2)



CLEMENT ATTLEE, Prime Minister of Britain and head of the Labor Party

British Labor Government Pushes Its Program

(Concluded from page 1)

minds and withdraw their support from this party.

Meanwhile, the debate will continue to be waged in England over the wisdom of the trend toward socialism. Before taking up the conflicting British opinions on this subject, we shall briefly describe the way in which an industry in that country is placed under public ownership.

When the government takes over an industry it pays the owners for their property. A body of experts decides what the payment should be. The price decided upon may not satisfy everyone. Some owners complain that they are being paid too little, and there are citizens who say that the government pays too much.

Work As Usual

After the government takes possession of an industry, work in the plants or factories goes on as usual. To outward appearances, conditions are unchanged. The workers, however, are government employees, and the profits of the business, if any, go to the government.

To get a better idea of how government ownership works in England, we may take the case of the coal industry. A member of the British cabinet, known as the Minister of Fuel and Power, is in charge of the mines. Working with other government leaders, he decides on important questions in connection with the production of coal, questions such as the wages of miners and amounts which shall be spent for new equipment. He has charge of sales of coal to purchasers, either at home or abroad.

This government official appoints a special group of mine experts, mine managers, union leaders, and financiers. Their job is to do the actual running of the coal industry, and they must report on their work once a year to Parliament.

If the government makes profits on the sale of coal, the money can be used to buy equipment and make improvements in the mines, or it can be used for public housing, health services, or other such purposes. So far, most of the profits have been used for purchasing modern mining machinery.

The British people are divided into two camps over the issue of government ownership. Supporters of the

program, who are now in the majority, argue their case as follows:

"Our country can no longer afford to permit the private-profit system to operate completely. It was never a wealthy land in comparison to the United States. The only way that such a small territory with so many people has prospered in the past is by carrying on a large amount of foreign trade with the rest of the world. As a result of the war, plus the fact that much of the British Empire is dissolving, we in England are now faced with a mighty task to support ourselves.

"The major industries of our country must now be run for the benefit of the whole population. The profits which formerly went to a relatively few private owners will, from this point on, serve the entire nation. The government, by owning the steel, electrical, gas, transportation, coal, and other great industries can obtain money with which to raise the housing, health, educational, and other standards of the people.

"In the case of smaller businesses, it is still desirable for private owners to own and operate them. If the government takes control of too much of the nation's economic life, it might become unwieldy and inefficient. Furthermore, it might become so powerful that it would turn into a communist state.

Avoid Extremes

"The Labor Party wants to avoid extreme capitalism and extreme socialism. Through this 'middle-of-the-way' system, it hopes gradually to improve living conditions in Britain and to enable the people to live almost as well as they did in the prewar years.

"Government ownership of the large industries of the nation will not only provide direct benefits to the population but also indirect. Owners of smaller businesses will content themselves with reasonable profits for fear that if they 'gouge the public,' the government might move into their fields of enterprise."

Such are the arguments put forth by members of the Labor Party and their sympathizers in England. Supporters of the Conservative Party, of which Winston Churchill is a leader, take strong issue with this point of



WHEN THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT took over the nation's coal mines early in 1947, signs such as this appeared at entrances to the mines

view. These Britishers are now in a minority, but they hope to regain the majority position before too long a time. Here is the way they present their case:

"Socialism will not solve our country's problems but will only make them worse in the long run. No government can run the industries of a nation as efficiently as can private owners. Public managers or workers do not have the same incentive to work hard and skillfully as do people engaged in private enterprise. Both products and services decline in quality.

"Our only hope of being prosperous again is to turn out such high-grade textile and other manufactured goods that people in many countries will want to buy these products. Only by selling factory items in large quantities abroad will we be able to buy the food we need and cannot raise in sufficient amounts here at home. With the government owning and operating our major industries, the quality of our products will decline and it will be increasingly hard to sell them abroad.

"The United States has proved beyond any doubt that a nation which sticks to capitalism gets along the

best. The system of private ownership and profits in that country has produced the highest standard of living ever achieved.

"The members of the Labor Party claim that the government will stop taking over industries after it has assumed ownership of the larger ones. Once socialism gets under way, however, it is hard to stop. Government officials seek more and more power. They are not satisfied until they control everyone and everything. Greater economic power leads to greater political power, and eventually socialism turns into communism.

Stop the Trend

"If the British people are wise, they will stop the socialistic trend before it is too late. Otherwise, they run the risk of losing not only their economic but also their political freedom."

The dispute among the British people over the wisdom of government ownership is certain to continue in the future. The final outcome will probably depend to a large extent upon how well England gets along under the leadership of the Labor Party. If economic conditions improve, this Party may stay in power long enough to complete its program.

If, on the other hand, the standard of living in Britain remains at its present low level, or does not rise very much, the majority of people in that country may again call upon the Conservative Party to direct its national policies. While leaders of this group might not undo everything the Laborites have done, they would certainly do all they could to rebuild private enterprise as opposed to government ownership.

Pronunciations

Ben Curion—bén gōōr'i-on
Nagel—nég'eb
tsatse—tsét'see
Chiang Kai-shek—jyahng kī-shék (y as in yes)
Mao Tse-tung—mou dzū-dōōng
Chekiang—ché-kyāng (y as in yes)
Soong Mei-ling—sōōng mā-ling
Zambezi—zām-bé'zi
Nyasaland—ní-ās'uh-lānd
Mozambique—mō'zam-bék'



THESE PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS in London have housed Britain's lawmaking bodies for almost a century

BRITISH INFORMATION SERVICE

Readers Say—

It has recently been suggested that a fine be imposed on all citizens who do not vote. I believe this would be a very unwise practice. First of all, it would make people feel resentful against their government if they were compelled to go to the polls. Then again, such a law would be hard to enforce in a country as large as ours.

ROGER EASTWOOD,
Branford, Connecticut

★ ★ ★

It is my opinion that we should not increase the number of displaced persons to be admitted to the United States. Almost every day we read of American citizens who are unable to find homes for themselves. Why should we make things worse by allowing too many DP's to enter the country? I think that we should take care of our own people before trying to aid others.

JEAN MARIE COULTER,
Cleveland, Ohio

★ ★ ★

I am in favor of increasing the number of displaced persons to be admitted to the United States. I hold this opinion because the law provides that DP's must have both a place to live and a job before they are permitted to enter the country. Thus, they are not depriving American citizens of either housing or employment.

CLOIE STANAWAY,
Eveleth, Minnesota

★ ★ ★

In a recent issue, Charles W. Smith said that he was opposed to compulsory military training because it was used in both Italy and Germany, and yet it did them no good. The reason why compulsory military training did these countries no good was that they wanted large armies for the sole purpose of starting a war. If we had compulsory military training, it would be only to protect ourselves and our allies against aggression.

KENNETH S. ALLEN,
Homer, New York

★ ★ ★

I believe that the federal government should provide funds for education because in this way students in all sections of the country would have equal opportunity. Federal funds would be used to bring the poorer schools up to the level of the richer ones and would attract more teachers where now there is too small a number.

THELMA REITAN,
Valley City, North Dakota



In my opinion, we should give as much aid as possible to China. I believe we should especially try to help her strengthen her economy. If China improved her standard of living and increased her business and trade, I believe the country would be more united and would be able to resist communism.

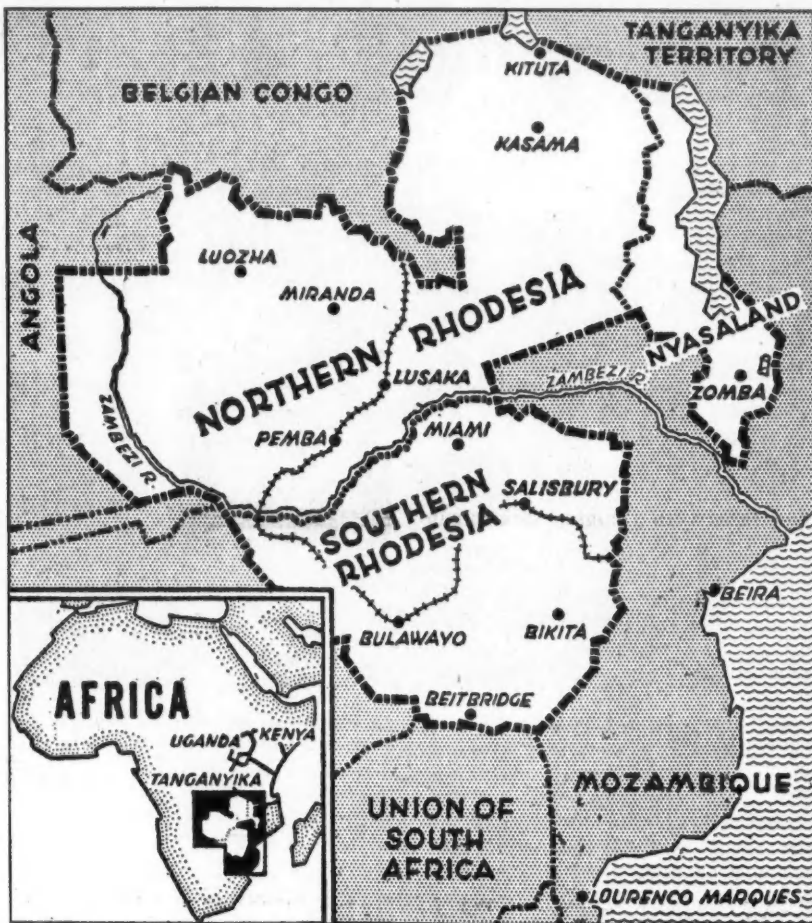
BEVERLY HAUSER,
Portland, Oregon

★ ★ ★

I do not believe we should help China more than we are doing because she apparently does not appreciate our aid. The more we try to assist her, the less she is willing to cooperate with our leaders. Furthermore, I doubt whether the Chinese will ever become too friendly with Russia. No country seems able to dominate China for too long.

DOLORES N. DUFF,
Saginaw, Michigan

(Address your letters to Readers Say,
THE AMERICAN OBSERVER, 1733 K Street,
N. W., Washington 6, D. C.)



THE TWO RHODESIAS and Nyasaland may become a Dominion

Plans for New Dominion

A Union of Three British Colonies

GREAT BRITAIN is getting ready to reorganize some of her possessions in the southern part of Africa. Plans are under way to unite three areas—Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia, and Nyasaland—which until now have been managed separately. One of these, Southern Rhodesia, is at present practically a self-governing colony, but the other two are ruled from London. Eventually the three together may become a Dominion, with a government similar to that of the Union of South Africa which adjoins Southern Rhodesia.

Britain is now turning her attention to the Rhodesias and Nyasaland because of her need for certain materials which these lands can furnish in abundance. In Northern Rhodesia is one of the great copper-producing regions of the world, as well as some important zinc deposits. Southern Rhodesia produces gold and asbestos, and she has considerable coal and bauxite (which yields aluminum). All three colonies have great tracts of valuable timber.

The three regions, as a group, cover an area greater than that of Texas, New Mexico, and Oklahoma combined. They have about 5½ million people. A little more than 100,000 of these are of British or European descent, and nearly all the rest are African natives. To a great extent, the natives still hold to their tribal cultures and pagan faiths.

Signs of old, vanished civilizations are found. In the copper and gold fields, for instance, there are large mine shafts which were dug by ancient peoples. In addition to these points of interest, one finds such scenic wonders as Southern Rhodesia's magnificent Victoria Falls.

Lying entirely within the tropics, the Rhodesias and Nyasaland produce

considerable quantities of rice, coffee, and sugar. In the highlands of Southern Rhodesia, where "winters" are fairly cool and dry, the farmers are able to raise such crops as corn, wheat, cotton, and various kinds of fruit. There is, moreover, a large amount of good pasture land. Britain hopes to obtain increasing quantities of food products from these regions in southern Africa in the years immediately ahead.

In addition, the building of factories, and of hydroelectric plants along the Zambezi River, is being encouraged. It is felt that, as the region becomes more prosperous, its people will need and will be able to buy larger amounts of manufactured goods from Britain than they now take.

Officials of Great Britain and Southern Rhodesia are negotiating with the Portuguese government, meanwhile, on the subject of improving transportation facilities in Mozambique, a Portuguese possession lying between the British colonies and the Indian Ocean. If the Rhodesias and Nyasaland do expand their trade with other parts of the world, such development of their routes to the sea will be necessary, and it is likely to benefit Mozambique as well as the British territories themselves.

As in some other parts of Africa, the race situation presents serious difficulties in the Rhodesias and Nyasaland. Privileges of the natives have been considerably restricted, particularly in Southern Rhodesia. African laborers generally receive extremely low wages. In connection with any plan to unite the three territories and establish self-government for the entire area, Great Britain would probably require some sort of guarantee of natives' rights.

—By THOMAS K. MYER.

Tune In!

A PROGRAM that deals with serious problems in a most interesting manner is "Living—1949" on NBC at 4:35 P.M. (EST) Sundays, with Ben Grauer as narrator. This broadcast deals with such matters as European opinion of the United States, the influence of women in American life, the health of the nation, population trends, to mention only a few.

The program is informative and full of human interest. Why not tune in on it?

★ ★ ★

"Youth Asks the Government" is a weekly broadcast that should interest many high school students. Usually originating in Washington, D. C., it is heard over ABC stations on Tuesday, 8:00 to 8:15 P.M. (EST).

Each week several teen-aged youths question a government leader or hold a discussion among themselves on a timely topic. John Edwards, ABC commentator, introduces the guests and serves as moderator during the discussion period. The program is unrehearsed and informal.

★ ★ ★

"You Are There" is a unique program which brings "eyewitness" accounts of famous historical events. The half-hour presentation may be heard over stations of the Columbia Broadcasting System each Sunday afternoon from 4:30 to 5:00 P.M. (EST).

In the program, methods of modern news coverage are used to present famous happenings that actually took place years ago, long before radio was invented. Every effort is made to see that all commentary and descriptions are based on authentic facts.

★ ★ ★

Alan Young stars in a new weekly comedy program on NBC Tuesday nights at 8:30 (EST). The show replaces "A Date with Judy." Fans of Louise Erickson who played the part of Judy will be pleased to know that she is cast as Alan's girl friend.

★ ★ ★

King George of England is an avid television fan. It is reported that he enjoyed watching video programs during his recent illness which kept him inactive for a number of days.

—By GEORGE EDSON.



ALAN YOUNG is the star of a new comedy program broadcast weekly

The Story of the Week

Peace in Indonesia?

Fighting in the Netherlands East Indies between the Indonesians and the Dutch troops seems to have ended except for occasional small skirmishes between Dutch outposts and native guerrillas. Thus, within two weeks from the time the conflict broke out, the Dutch have succeeded in getting control of the main cities and highways of Java, Sumatra, and other smaller islands in the Indies. They are now going ahead with plans to set up a native government which will cooperate with them.

Though the conflict was short-lived, it has left a number of serious questions unanswered. For example, how can the United Nations restore the prestige it lost when the Dutch ignored the UN cease-fire order until all military objectives were attained? Will the Dutch attack stir up resentment against all of the Western powers throughout the Far East? Will Communists be able to exploit the action of the Dutch by claiming that their attack is "typical" of the way in which the western powers act?

It may be some time before the final answers to these questions can be determined. However, most observers agree at this time that, while the Dutch may have won a temporary advantage by their sudden action, their resort to force may in the long run do great harm both to their reputation and to the cause of world peace.

High Scorer

Big George Mikan of the Minneapolis Lakers is enjoying one of his best seasons on the basketball court. For weeks the huge center—he is six feet 10 inches tall and weighs around 240 pounds—has been out ahead in the individual scoring race in pro basketball's Association of America. By averaging 28 points in each of his first 25 games, he had, early this month, built up a lead of more than 100 points over his closest rival.

With a salary of about \$15,000 a season, Mikan is today considered basketball's highest paid player and greatest drawing card, but it took



NATIVE INDONESIANS followed news of the Dutch attack on their republic by reading public notices on bulletin boards

great perseverance for him to reach his present position. As a boy in Joliet, Illinois, he could never take the time to go out for his school team and so never played high school basketball. In addition, he was nearsighted, and his great size made him extremely awkward when he first tried to play the game.

Unlike many boys with such handicaps, Mikan would not give up. He played in "pick-up" games and with a team representing a young people's club. Entering DePaul University in Chicago, he spent long hours in practice, trying several hundred shots at the basket each day, first with his right hand and then with his left. Glasses with unbreakable lenses solved the problem of nearsightedness.

Gradually his awkwardness disappeared. He became a smooth ball handler and a deadly shot. Before graduating from DePaul, Mikan was a unanimous choice for the collegiate All-American five, and was looked upon by basketball experts as one of the few "skyscrapers" in the game who did not have to depend solely on his height to make him an outstanding star on the court.

Only 24 years old, Mikan should be an outstanding player for several

more years. He is a good public speaker, and in his free time is studying to be a lawyer.

Israeli Election

The first election of the new state of Israel is scheduled to take place on January 25. On that day, the people of Israel will vote for their representatives in the national legislature.

A large number of parties are putting up candidates for the election. Whichever group wins a majority of the seats in the legislature will have the right to select the prime minister and his cabinet. If no party obtains a majority, there will probably be a "coalition" government to include representatives of all the parties.

The new Jewish state is run at present by a Provisional Council composed of leaders of various political organizations. The Mapai, or Jewish Labor Party, is the largest group represented on the Council. It is headed by the present prime minister, David Ben Gurion, and has many of the same objectives as the British Labor Party. The electoral government will soon replace the Provisional Council.

Meanwhile, strife continues in Israel. The Jews have recently been engaged in a battle with Egyptian forces in the Negeb desert, but an armistice was discussed after the United Nations ordered that hostilities cease. Meanwhile, Great Britain has strengthened her military forces in the area. Britain claims that Israel has attacked British planes, but Israel says the planes first flew over the new state's boundaries.

Television—What Next?

Television seems all set for another boom year. Observers are predicting that television expansion in 1949 may be as spectacular as it was in 1948 when the number of stations jumped from 17 to 51 and the number of sets increased from 200,000 to 1 million. Some observers also think that developments in this field during 1949 may determine the answers to important questions concerning the effect of television on American life.

For example—will television make Americans stay at home, and reverse the trend that started when the automobile came into use? Will it tighten family ties and lower the divorce

rates? Or will it distract members of the family from their household jobs and have an opposite effect?

Will television result in a better informed public? Or will it keep people from reading newspapers and books and from friendly discussion and result in their being less well informed?

These are a few of the questions raised by the rapid expansion of television. The year 1949 may answer them.

Secretary of State

As we go to press, the Senate is considering President Truman's appointment of Dean Acheson as Secretary of State. If the upper house approves Acheson, he will succeed Secretary George Marshall whose recent resignation will become effective on January 20. Marshall, who has been Secretary of State for two years, has been in ill health for some time, and wants to retire to his Virginia home.

Although Acheson has been devoting himself to his private law practice for the last year and a half, he should not have much difficulty in taking over as head of the State Department where he served from February 1941 to July 1947. For part of that period he was



DEAN ACHESON, who is expected to become Secretary of State soon

Undersecretary of State and on a number of occasions he substituted for Secretary Byrnes when the latter was called out of Washington.

The 55-year-old Acheson is a native of Connecticut. He attended Yale University and Harvard Law School. After acting as private secretary to Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis for two years, he practiced law in Washington until 1941 with the exception of a six-months interval in 1933 when he was Undersecretary of the Treasury.

A tall, mustached man who dresses carefully, Mr. Acheson has been described as one "who could play the role of a British diplomat without make-up." He is married and has three children.

Airline Safety

American airlines established an excellent safety record in 1948. Figures recently published by the Civil Aeronautics Administration—the government agency which supervises non-military flying—show that regularly scheduled lines within this country averaged less than two fatal accidents for each 100 million passenger miles



INAUGURAL PRESENT. Brigadier General Hugh B. Hester and a civilian display a silk Presidential flag that will be presented to Mr. Truman on Inauguration Day. The flag was made at the Philadelphia Quartermaster Depot.



NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART, a building that will attract many of the visitors who will be in Washington, D. C., during the next few days for President Truman's inauguration. The building, besides being a beautiful structure, is unusual in that it has no windows.

flown in 1948. On international air-routes which are serviced by American planes, the fatality rate was even lower than on the domestic routes. In both cases, the safety record for 1948 showed an improvement over that of 1947.

The outstanding performance is due, in large part, to the installation of new safety devices. For example, new types of landing aids have been put into use at many airfields, and landing by instrument is now a commonplace operation at more than 75 airports throughout the nation.

Busy Lawmakers

Our lawmakers are now taking up the various proposals put forth by President Truman in his message to them at the beginning of the present Congress. Mr. Truman asked for action on a large number of matters. Among his requests were the following:

- 1) A tax increase of 4 billion dollars a year in order to balance the budget and reduce the national debt.
- 2) Authority to halt inflation through an 8-point program which would include controls on exports, rents, wages and prices. The President also asked that the government be allowed to build its own steel and other plants if private industry fails to meet the needs of the nation.
- 3) A program of far-reaching social legislation. This would include a system of medical insurance, the extension of the social security program, public housing, and federal aid to schools.
- 4) The establishment of universal military training.
- 5) Repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act, and reenactment of the Wagner Act with some improvements.
- 6) Adoption of a civil rights program.
- 7) An increase of the minimum wage in interstate industries to at least 75 cents an hour.

These proposals, together with various others made by the President, are expected to occupy Congress for the next five or six months. It will probably be mid-summer before our lawmakers will finish their work and be able to adjourn.

Warsaw Revival

The Polish city of Warsaw, which was ruined by the Germans during World War II, is being rebuilt. The Poles are erecting many new government buildings in their capital and they are constructing a subway that will make it easier for the people to

get from one part of the city to another.

Most of Poland was devastated during the recent conflict. The country was the first to be overrun by the Nazis and for a while it was divided between the Germans and the Russians. Further destruction was caused when the Russians began their campaign to drive the Germans back to Berlin. At the end of the war, Russia took a part of eastern Poland while the Poles received a portion of eastern Germany.

Poland, of course, is run by Communists and is a close ally of the Soviet Union, but recently it has been signing trade agreements with many Western powers. It has promised to sell great quantities of bacon, eggs and timber to Great Britain, and other products to such countries as Denmark, France, and Western Germany. In exchange for these shipments, Poland will receive large orders of machinery, wool, rubber and other items which she does not produce herself.

1948 Mileage

Americans traveled 395 billion miles by motor vehicles during 1948, according to government officials. This marked a 7 per cent increase over 1947, when the people of this country traveled 370 billion miles.

Traffic authorities say that this increase in activity on the roads is creat-

ing a number of serious problems. While more and more cars are appearing on city streets and on highways, the construction of roads is not increasing at anywhere near the same rate.

The traffic problem is especially acute in the cities. There, streets can seldom be enlarged, and in most urban centers there is not enough space for parking. As a result, there is much congestion of traffic.

Of course, both the federal government and the various states have large road-building projects under way. During last year alone, over a billion dollars were spent on building new highways and improving old ones. But much more will have to be done before the nation's traffic problem can be solved.

Supreme Court Ruling

Under the "closed shop," an employer can hire only union members. About 12 states have laws outlawing this device, and it is also banned by the Taft-Hartley Act. Employers generally oppose the idea of the "closed shop," while labor leaders favor it, and have maintained on many occasions that the laws prohibiting it were against the Constitution.

Consequently, the recent ruling of the Supreme Court that states do have the right to outlaw the "closed shop" if they want to is generally regarded

by labor officials as a set-back to their cause. It is causing them to intensify their efforts to have the Taft-Hartley Act repealed. They think that if this law is taken off the books, labor unions will be able to retain the "closed shop" in more industries than they otherwise would.

Labor officials are generally in favor of having the Taft-Hartley Act replaced by the earlier Wagner Act, which was more favorable to labor. Since President Truman was elected on a platform which pledged repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act and since he now has majority backing in Congress, it seems certain that changes will be made in our laws governing labor-employer relations. However, whether these changes will include outright repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act and substitution of the Wagner Act remains to be seen. The recent Supreme Court ruling may very likely speed a decision on this vital matter.

Yugoslav Trade

Yugoslavia is increasing her trade with countries outside the Soviet "sphere of influence" even though she continues to be controlled by a Communist government. Recently, she signed an important agreement with Great Britain, under which she will receive machinery and textiles in return for shipping to England timber, wood products, and foodstuffs. She has also signed trade agreements with such nations as Switzerland and the Dominion of India.

Yugoslavia is dealing with non-Communist countries because her Communist neighbors are continuing to shun her. They refuse to send her the goods they promised and are, in fact, increasing their efforts to cause the overthrow of the Yugoslav government. This is hindering Yugoslavia from carrying out its plan of becoming an industrial nation and she is, therefore, turning to the West to get the supplies that she needs.

The countries of Eastern Europe are hostile to Yugoslavia because Marshal Tito, Yugoslavia's prime minister, insists on running his nation's economy his own way. He continues to refuse to "knuckle under" to the international Communist movement or to the Soviet Union. However, he still maintains that he is as strongly communist as the leaders of the other Eastern European lands.

Despite the fact that Tito is not on good terms with Russia, observers see little chance of Yugoslavia's giving up its communist type of government at this time.



TRIESTE HARBOR—at the head of the Adriatic Sea—is now a relatively peaceful spot. Right after World War II the area was a hotbed of controversy—claimed by both Italy and Yugoslavia. Now it is under international control.

Should Senate Limit the Use of the Filibuster?

(Concluded from page 1)

with the issue immediately at hand.

John T. Flynn, in his book *Meet Your Congress*, points out that "the filibuster has been used by all parties . . . and by the ablest and most high-minded men in the Senate." Mr. Flynn also says that "it has been used in good causes and has been successful in preventing very vicious legislation in more than one instance."

Nevertheless, the filibuster has come to be severely criticized as an undemocratic weapon. The Senate has acted to limit the use of the device to some extent, and it is now considering suggestions for additional restrictions.

Cloture Rule

In 1917, when the Senate became alarmed because of a filibuster, that body adopted what is known as the cloture, or closure, rule. The rule comes into operation only when two-thirds of the Senate approve a motion to invoke it. When the rule is invoked, each senator can discuss the measure before the body for only one hour.

Proposals now being considered by the Senate would make it possible to invoke the rule if a simple majority of the senators present approved it. In other words, if 50 senators were on the floor when a motion for cloture was made, the motion would pass if 26 members voted for it.

During the period since the cloture rule was adopted, the Senate has not invoked it often. Each senator wants to keep debate as free as possible, and no lawmaker wants to run the risk that the rule will be put into operation against him in the future. Nevertheless, certain members of the upper house of our national legislature feel that something must be done to eliminate prolonged filibusters.

Some persons argue that the filibuster should be outlawed entirely by a rule that would limit debate on every issue. These people present their views in the following way:

"Any device that permits a single person to impose his views on the nation—as the filibuster does—is undemocratic and endangers the American way of life. The filibuster can be compared to the much-criticized veto power in the Security Council of the United Nations. The veto permits a single nation to block world action.

The filibuster permits an individual senator to stand in the way of national action. Both devices are extremely undemocratic.

"In time of crisis, a small group of senators might hold up action indefinitely on legislation needed by the nation and approved by the majority of lawmakers. Of course if two-thirds of the senators were in agreement, they could limit debate by applying the cloture rule. But it is usually impossible to get such a large majority of lawmakers to agree upon a course of action. Our government should not rely upon a rule that might permit as few as 33 men to prevent legislative action at a time of crisis.

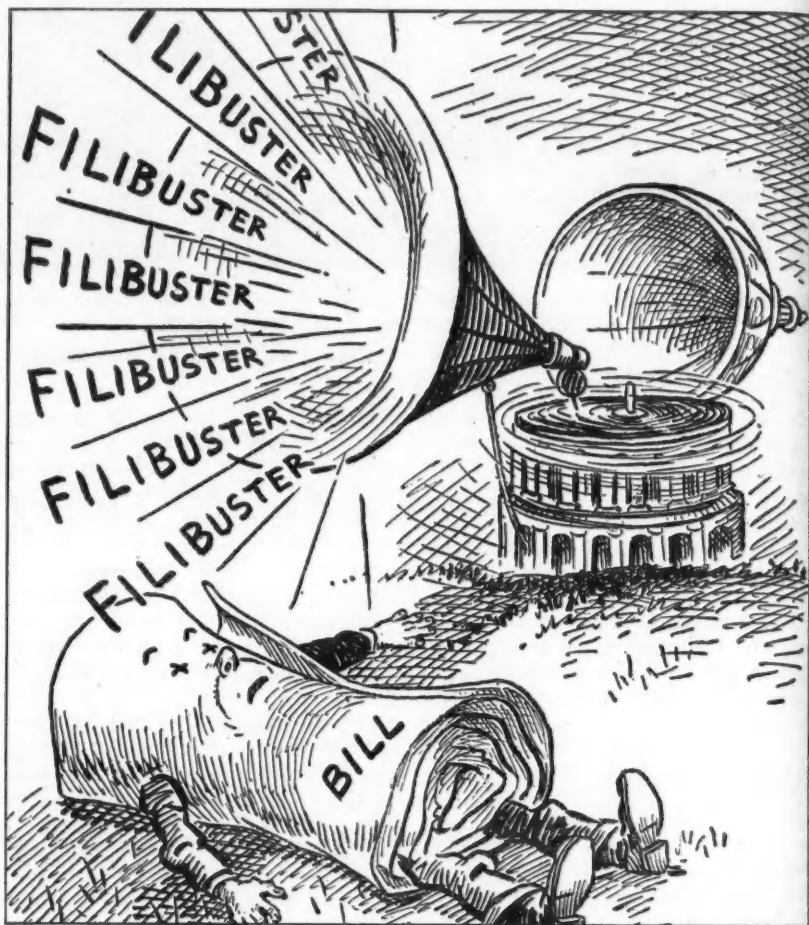
"The plan now being suggested to permit a simple majority of senators to limit debate in case of a filibuster would, if adopted, be an improvement over the present situation. The Senate, however, should not have to take time to debate whether or not the cloture rule should be put into effect on numerous occasions.

"The best procedure would be to limit debate in the Senate as it is limited in the House. There, when a bill is brought to the floor for discussion, a time is set for debate. Two or three hours may be given to a measure, or several days may be allotted to it. Then each representative can have his proportionate share of this period. A similar rule in the Senate would assure thorough discussion of an issue, yet prevent the possibility of filibuster."

View Too Extreme

Many observers feel that the view expressed above is too extreme. They believe that filibusters can be eliminated to a large extent by the rule that has been suggested—the proposal that debate be limited when a simple majority of the Senate approves. These observers argue in this way:

"The right of unlimited debate has been abused on occasion, but the Senate should not go too far in discarding a practice that has its good points along with its weak ones. Prolonged debate permits a minority to obtain full consideration of its position on a controversial issue. Often, particularly in time of crisis, a majority can be swept into passing laws that may



TALKED to death

hurt the nation. The right of unlimited debate permits a few senators who may foresee harmful consequences to delay action until the majority reconsiders.

"The Senate has always been a 'deliberative' body. Its vital duty is to debate public matters thoroughly and to prevent unwise legislation from being put on the statute books. Restrictive rules could keep the Senate from performing this task well.

"It is not essential or wise to limit debate in the Senate to the same extent as it is in the House. There are about five times as many representatives as there are senators. If anything is to be accomplished in the House, some restrictions on debate are needed. Because its membership is smaller, the Senate can give each person more time to present his views.

"The filibuster can be unwisely used, but a senator is not likely to use it for long when he sees that a strong majority is opposed to his position. Public opinion is aroused when any individual or group in the Senate resorts to the filibuster. Letters of criticism pour into the office of a person taking part in obstructive debate."

While some members of the Senate are concerned over the possible abuse of the right to unlimited debate, many still do not want to make any change in the system. They feel that lawmakers who threaten to filibuster can be persuaded not to do so by other senators and by the pressure of public opinion. They also feel that even minor restrictions on debate would do more harm than good.

The question of limiting the filibuster is important now because several controversial issues are being considered by the Senate. Some of the lawmakers are opposed to changes in our labor laws and may attempt to defeat

new legislation by using the filibuster. Southern Senators oppose President Truman's civil rights program, and may try to "talk it to death."

The Senate is traditionally opposed to limiting its freedom of action by its own rules. Whether it will change its past position on this question may be known by the time this paper reaches its readers, or shortly thereafter.

An expedition sponsored by the National Geographic Society and the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D. C., is now on its way to Panama, where it will study the ancient civilizations of the Americas. The party will search for uncharted burial mounds and will probably unearth pottery, farm implements and other relics of early civilizations.

Federal Offices

Many agencies of the federal government are now establishing branch offices in various cities throughout the country. By doing so, they are making it easier for the average citizen to transact business with the government. Instead of having to travel to Washington, a person may now be able to take care of many matters at a branch office near his home.

Federal departments and agencies that have already set up "regional" or "area" branches are the Veterans Administration, the Commerce Department and, of course, the Post Office Department. In the next few years, many more government activities will have offices in various parts of the country.

Under the plan now being worked out by officials, most federal branch offices in a city will in time be located in the same building.



SENATORS GLEN TAYLOR and William Langer were in high spirits after their 17-hour filibuster on the draft last June, even though the effort to defeat the measure failed.

Science

Electronic grocery stores are being built in a few communities throughout the United States. A housewife, upon entering such a store, receives a key which holds a roll of paper. As she walks around, she may inspect the merchandise displayed in glass cases. Each item has a letter. When wishing to make a purchase, she inserts the key in the proper slot and presses a button indicating her choice. The letter of the item, as well as the price, are punched in code on the paper inside the key.

The checker removes the paper from the key, and runs it through a machine which totals the bill, and which, at the same time, sets controls in the back of the store into operation. Each item which the customer has selected is dropped automatically onto a huge conveyor belt and brought quickly to the checker's desk.

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British scientists believe they have discovered a way to beat Africa's tsetse fly, an insect which gives cattle and other animals a disease similar to sleeping sickness. A new drug called "antricyde" is said to cure animals stricken with the disease, and to immunize healthy ones against it. This discovery may mean that areas of the African continent which have been plagued by the tsetse fly will be opened up for cattle production on a wide scale.

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Although no one can predict the biggest science news stories for the coming year, experts say that we may watch for new developments in many fields. It may be that 1949 will see the development of an atomic engine, or wider use of radioactive materials in increasing crop production, or in curing disease.

Better fertilizers, and new ways of taking more food from the sea may help to solve the world's food problems. No doubt great strides will be taken in the field of aviation with the manufacture of faster and safer planes.

The production of better paints, oils, plastics, rubber and fuels may mean improved products for our homes and factories. Experimentation is going on in these and many other fields, and great advances may be made in 1949.

—By HAZEL LEWIS.



CHIANG KAI-SHEK
Head of the Nationalist Government



MAO TSE-TUNG
Leader of the Communists in China

Outstanding Men in China

Chiang Kai-shek and Mao Tse-tung Served Under Sun Yat-sen in 1911, But They Bitterly Oppose Each Other Now

RUMORS of peace negotiations in China's civil war are putting the spotlight on the two main figures in the Far Eastern struggle—Chiang Kai-shek, head of the Nationalist government, and Mao Tse-tung, Communist leader. At this writing, neither seems to have made any concessions to the other, but observers say that peace sentiment is running higher in China than it has in years. By the time this paper appears, it may be that Chiang and Mao will have taken steps to end the prolonged fighting.

Slight, wiry Chiang Kai-shek was born about 60 years ago in the coastal province of Chekiang in southern China. The son of a merchant, he joined the army at an early age and showed a marked aptitude for military matters. He was sent to Japan to attend the Tokyo Military College, and studied there four years.

While Chiang was in Japan, he became an ardent follower of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, who was working to unite China under one central government. In 1911 revolution broke out, and the old feudal monarchy which had ruled China for years was overthrown. Chiang promptly sailed for home, and for the next five years threw himself into the revolution under Sun Yat-sen.

After a brief period in business, Chiang returned to military affairs. He rose quickly in the Nationalist Army, and when Sun Yat-sen died, Chiang succeeded him as Nationalist leader. About this time he married

Soong Mei-ling, who, as Madame Chiang Kai-shek, has become the most famous woman in the Far East. She has greatly influenced her husband.

For the past 20 years, Chiang has been involved almost continually in war. First he fought the war lords in various sections of the country and succeeded in getting more of China under his rule than any other leader ever had done. Then he fought the Communists. During World War II, Communists and Nationalists joined forces for a time to fight the common enemy, Japan, but as soon as Japan was defeated, the civil war broke out once more.

Tall, round-faced Mao Tse-tung, China's leading Communist, is—like his rival, Chiang—a native of the southeastern part of the country. The son of a peasant, he managed, nonetheless, to get a good schooling. When the revolution took place in 1911, Mao—a youth of 18—served in the army of Sun Yat-sen.

Later Mao studied to be a school teacher, but he gave up teaching to take part in political activities. In 1920 he attended the meeting in Shanghai at which the Chinese Communist party was formed. He quickly attained a position of leadership.

In 1927 Mao was one of the organizers of the Communist army. He went back to his native province of Hunan and set up a Soviet type of government. Meanwhile, he took a leading part in directing the struggle against the forces of Chiang Kai-shek. With the exception of the years in which the Communists and the Nationalists cooperated against Japan, the civil war has dragged on ever since, and the Communist armies have made substantial gains.

To what extent Mao Tse-tung and the other Chinese Communist leaders take orders from Moscow has long been a subject of speculation. Mao's supporters hold that the Chinese Communist party is entirely separate from other Communist groups, and takes no orders from any outside group.

However, many observers take the opposite viewpoint. They contend that Communist activities in all countries are directed from the Soviet Union. The House Committee on Foreign Affairs recently stated that the "Chinese Communists have followed faithfully every zig-zag of the Kremlin line for a generation."

—By HOWARD O. SWEET.

Your Vocabulary

In each of the sentences below match the italicized word or phrase with the following word whose meaning is most nearly the same. Correct answers are to be found on page 8, column 4.

1. She gave a *precise* (prê-sis') account of the meeting. (a) exact (b) brief (c) witty (d) dull.
2. He asked to be *reimbursed* (rê-im-bursd'). (a) recognized (b) repaid (c) informed (d) forgiven.
3. It was a strong *regime* (ray-zhêm'). (a) fortress (b) governmental system (c) charter (d) plank.
4. The results seemed *inconsequential* (in-kon'sê-kwen'shal). (a) remarkable (b) regrettable (c) unimportant (d) astounding.
5. They tried to *replenish* (rê-plên'-ish) the supply. (a) restock (b) sabotage (c) determine (d) purchase.
6. It was impossible to *refute* (rê-fût') her arguments. (a) uphold (b) prove (c) understand (d) disprove.
7. He asked for a *prolongation* (prô-long-gâ'-shûn) of the discussion. (a) postponement (b) end (c) lengthening.

SMILES

The pompous judge glared sternly over his spectacles at the tattered prisoner, who had been dragged before the bar of justice on a charge of vagrancy. "Have you ever earned a dollar in your life?" he asked in scorn. "Yes, Your Honor," was the response. "I voted for you at the last election."

★ ★ ★

Young man to his friend while horse-back riding: "Shall we take the bridle-path, Pamela?" "Oh, George, this is so sudden!"



BERNSTEIN IN SATURDAY EVENING POST
"May I test your reflexes?"

Wife: "I'm reading a mystery book."
Husband: "Why, that looks like our household budget."
Wife: "It is."

★ ★ ★

Question: What would be the proper thing to say if, in carving the duck, it should skid off the platter and into your guest's lap?

Answer: Be very courteous. Say, "May I trouble you for that duck?"

★ ★ ★

"Was my father very violent when you asked if you could marry me?"
"Was he! He nearly wrung my hands off."

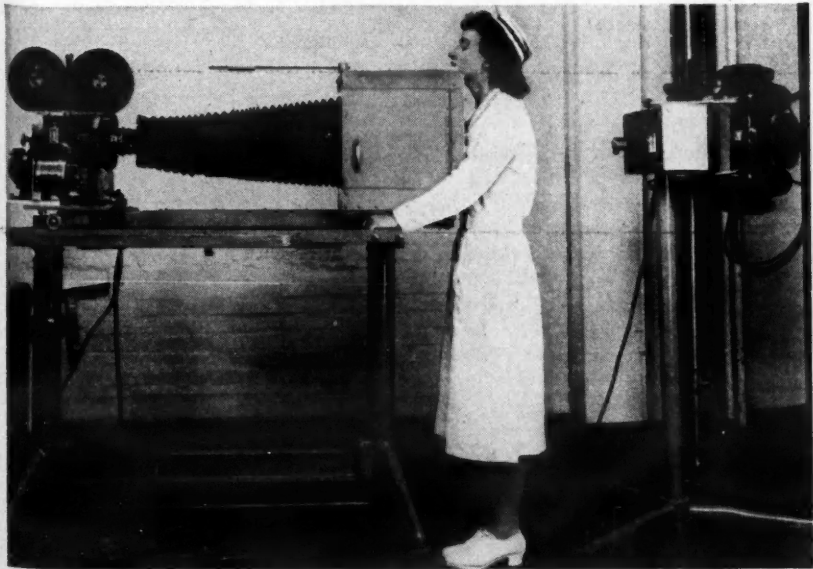
★ ★ ★

It is the man of superior intelligence who knows when to laugh when a woman is telling a funny story.

★ ★ ★

Witness: "I think—"
Lawyer: "We don't care what you think, what we want to know is what you know."

Witness: "If you don't want to know what I think, I may as well leave the stand. I can't talk without thinking. I'm not a lawyer."



AN X-RAY MOVIE is being taken of the nurse's chest. This new development in the use of X-ray will help medical science greatly

Careers for Tomorrow - - Millinery

MILLINERY—the art of designing and making women's hats—is primarily an occupation for women. They run most of the retail millinery shops in the towns, large and small, across the nation. They also make up a majority of the workers in the large hat factories located in New York and other big cities.

The making of a woman's hat includes a number of steps, each of which is highly important. First the hat must be designed, that is, the style and trimmings must be planned. Then comes the actual "production," and the steps in this process depend upon the material from which the hat is to be made.

A felt hat, for instance, is blocked with the use of steam on a wooden form. A straw hat is blocked in somewhat the same manner. A hat made of fabric is usually fitted to a wire frame. After the hat has been shaped in one of these ways, the ribbons, flowers, or other decorations are put on it, and the finishing touches are done.

In a large manufacturing concern, the work is usually divided among specialists of various kinds. One group designs the hats. Another does the blocking, and a third puts on the decorations. In a small shop, one individual may do all of the different steps required in making the finished headpiece.

Many persons who are called milliners spend most of their time in selling hats. They do very little of the "production work," although they must be able to make any adjustments a customer may want.

A young woman who is interested in entering this occupation may learn the "trade" by attending a vocational school, or she may get a job as a helper

in a hat shop or factory. If one cannot attend a vocational school—and these are located only in the larger cities—she will probably get the best training by going to work as a beginner in a high class retail shop where hats are made. By starting in a factory, she is likely to learn only one or two of the processes related to the work.

A person may do well as a milliner



A MILLINER at work

if she is quick and skillful in using her fingers and if she has a certain amount of artistic ability. She should also have steady nerves and patience. Good eyesight is an essential qualification, too.

A large part of the millinery work is done by individuals who own and operate small shops. These women may follow through on the various steps involved in making hats, or they may rely primarily upon wholesale firms for the hats they sell. In either case, they must have sales ability and business sense in addition to skill as a milliner.

The expense of establishing a mil-

linery shop is relatively small, but anyone who plans to set one up should investigate the possibilities thoroughly. A skilled and creative milliner may fail in operating her own shop unless she has made her plans carefully.

Incomes in this field vary a great deal. Most milliners who make hats earn between 75 cents and \$2 an hour—between \$30 and \$80 a week. Persons who do only sales work usually receive commissions and salaries ranging, for the most part, between \$25 and \$50 a week. The earnings of persons who operate their own shops may be as low as \$1,000 or \$2,000 a year, or as high as \$10,000. Most shops make between \$3,000 and \$5,000.

Millinery work is attractive because it enables one to use her imagination and it is usually carried on in pleasant surroundings. The principal disadvantage lies in the fact that the business is seasonal. Many milliners employed in factories are sometimes not employed the year around, and those in retail stores are not busy during some parts of the year.

Nevertheless, the business is a large one, since women spend about 200 million dollars on headgear each year. Persons who have the right combination of artistic and business ability can make satisfying and profitable careers in the field.

Additional information can be secured by talking to successful milliners in the various communities. A brief discussion of the field can be secured by writing to the Small Business Division, Office of Domestic Commerce, Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D. C. Ask for Small Business Aids Number 230.

—By CARRINGTON SHIELDS.

Study Guide

Senate Filibuster

1. What is the most common form of filibustering?
2. Why is it that filibusters never take place in the House of Representatives?
3. Why did the Senate, more than 100 years ago, decide not to curb debate in any way?
4. How long have filibusters lasted on past occasions?
5. What do we mean by cloture? Under the present Senate rules, when may cloture be invoked?
6. What proposed change in the cloture rule is the Senate now considering?
7. Give the arguments advanced by those who think that the filibuster should be outlawed entirely.
8. How do those who feel that debate should be limited when a simple majority of the Senate approve support their viewpoint?

Discussion

1. Mr. John Flynn in his book, *Meet Your Congress*, says that on occasions the filibuster "has been used in good causes." Do you think this is sufficient reason for retaining it? Why, or why not?
2. How do you think the Senate might retain the maximum freedom of debate and yet permit only a minimum of obstructive tactics?

Great Britain

1. What British industries are being placed under public ownership and management by the Labor Party?
2. According to Labor Party leaders, what type of businesses are to be left in private hands?
3. When the government takes over an industry, who decides the amount that shall be paid to the private owners?
4. What are the arguments advanced by those who favor the present policy of the British government concerning major industries?
5. Give the arguments advanced by Britain's Conservative Party against government ownership of the large industries.
6. Who is the best known leader of the Conservative Party?

Discussion

1. On the basis of your present information, do you or do you not think you would be in favor of the Labor Party's program if you lived in England? Explain your position.
2. Do you believe that the steps which the Labor government is taking in Great Britain today will strengthen, or weaken, democratic government? Give reasons for your answer.

Miscellaneous

1. Why is Yugoslavia trying to increase her trade with countries outside the Soviet sphere of influence?
2. List three matters President Truman has asked Congress to act upon at its present session.
3. What ruling did the Supreme Court make recently regarding the closed shop?
4. What British colonies may become a Dominion? Briefly describe these colonies' resources.
5. Discuss briefly the backgrounds of China's two outstanding leaders who take opposite sides in that nation's civil struggle.
6. How has the new state of Israel been governed? What change will be made soon?

References

- "Life Under Socialism in England," by H. W. Seaman, *American Mercury*, September, 1948. An article critical of the British experiment in socialism.
- "ERP and British Socialism," by Keith Hutchison, *Nation*, July 31, 1948. An article favorable to British Socialism.
- "Pardon My Filibuster," *Newsweek*, Aug. 9, 1948. Description of a filibuster that took place during the special session of Congress last summer.

Answers to Vocabulary Test

1. (a) exact; 2. (b) repaid; 3. (b) governmental system; 4. (c) unimportant; 5. (a) restock; 6. (d) disprove; 7. (c) lengthening.

Historical Backgrounds - - U. S. Newspapers

THERE are now so many newspapers printed in the United States every day that it is difficult for us to realize that George Washington seldom saw a daily paper. Nearly all the newspapers published in this country in Washington's day were weeklies.

The news contained in these early American papers was usually several weeks, or even months, old. It was never "hot off the wires," for the telephone and telegraph were unknown in the 18th century. Editors depended for news upon letters from friends, the reports of travelers, and accounts in newspapers from England. Since sailing ships took several weeks to cross the Atlantic, American papers were often a month late in reporting news.

Early newspapers in this country were also very small in comparison with the large city papers of today. They were usually no larger than a sheet of typewriter paper, and seldom exceeded four pages in length. They had no pictures.

The 18th century papers were often edited by postmasters, because persons engaged in this occupation usually heard the news contained in letters. John Campbell, for example, the postmaster at Boston, published the first successful American newspaper, the *Boston News-Letter*, in 1704.

The first newspaper printed outside

Boston was the *American Weekly Mercury* of Philadelphia, founded in 1719. A few years later, Benjamin Franklin published another weekly paper in Philadelphia, the *Pennsylvania Gazette*. Other papers were soon started elsewhere, and by 1776 there were over 30 newspapers in circulation in the colonies. These papers were influential in arousing public opinion against English rule.

Newspapers were popular in the



FROM "THAT LIVELY MAN, BEN FRANKLIN," PUBLISHED BY MORROW
YOUNG BEN FRANKLIN in a print shop

American colonies, but they were not the only sources of news. Postmasters, for example, not only handled the mail but also exchanged news with persons who came to mail or receive letters. Ship captains and travelers brought news from Europe and the Orient. They found many eager listeners in all ports.

The town crier was also an important news announcer. As he went through the streets, ringing his bell to attract attention, he would "cry out" the news or would stop at street corners and read aloud the latest proclamation by the King or the royal governor. The town crier was an important person in colonial days. Since many colonists were illiterate, the town crier was respected for his ability to read.

As more people learned to read, newspapers became more popular. By the time of the Civil War there were nearly 400 newspapers in circulation. As the telegraph came into practical use during the 1840's, it was a great help to editors in getting outside news quickly.

Today, newspapers have become "big business." Over 40 million copies are published in the United States every day—enough to provide one copy for every family. They contain late news from all corners of the earth and are well supplied with pictures.